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REMARKS

Initially the undersigned attorney for Applicant wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesies extended at the interview held at the Patent Office on November 28, 2006. The present amendment is submitted with the discussion held during that interview in mind.

The present amendment is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed August 1, 2006, in which Claims 1 through 10 were rejected. Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action and the references cited therein. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and, when coupled with the amendments made herein to the application, are believed to render the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 3 and 7 are amended herein. No claim is cancelled herein. New Claims 11 through 20 are added for consideration at this time. Accordingly, Claims 1 through 20 are now pending.

All changes are made for clarification and are based on the application and drawings as originally filed. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. SECTION 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 through 10 under 35 USC Section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner objected to "said inner cavity"

of Claim 1 as being mistaken for --said inner container--, "the concave surface" of Claim 3 as referring to a structure that had not yet been established, and "said inn heat-insulating casing" as lacking antecedent basis.

Each of Claims 1, 3 and 7 has been amended to correct the indefiniteness. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 1 through 10 under 35 USC Section 112 is now overcome.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. SECTION 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 through 6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of JP 06-46953.

Of the rejected claims only Claim 1 is independent.

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has substantially amended Claim 1 herein so as to specify that the tubular heaters are disposed beneath the inner container and the majority of the tubular heaters are out of direct contact with the inner container. Applicant has also amended Claim 1 to specify that the defined radiant chamber is at least partially hollow. Applicant respectfully submits that neither the admitted prior art nor the cited Japanese reference teach, suggest, or otherwise render obvious the invention as now claimed in independent Claim 1.

Applicant believes that Claim 1 as amended is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that insofar as Claim 1 should be allowable over the cited art the claims which directly or indirectly depend on Claim 1, that is, dependent Claims 2 through 10, are in condition for allowance as well.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 through 10 under 35 USC Section 103 are respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS 11 THROUGH 20

Applicant submits herewith new Claims 11 through 20. Of these claims only Claims 11 and 15 are independent.

New independent Claim 11 is directed to the layers of the electric cooker of the present invention and is particularly directed to the insulating layer which is provided between the inner heat-insulating casting and the intermediate heat-insulating casting. Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art does not teach or suggest this arrangement.

New independent Claim 15 is directed to the configuration of the inner container and its outward-curving base. Claim 15 is also directed to the arrangement and configuration of the radiant chamber as well as the hot air passing chamber. Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art does not teach or suggest this arrangement.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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